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STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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AWSAM COMMITTEE Minutes (Approved October 29, 2013)

The AWSAM Committee held a meeting on September 24, 2013 at 3:30 P.M. in Conference Room B, Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Blvd, Dover, Delaware.

PRESENT: Ann Blackmore, Pam Tyranski, Alicia Kluger, Agnes Richardson, Aimee

DeBenedictis, Maxine Travis, Sarah Carmody, Yrene Waldron, Sandra Robinson

ABSENT: Mary Peterson, Janice Taggart, Vickie Cox, Linda Wolfe

GUESTS: None

PRESIDING: Pam Tyranski

STAFF: Pamela Zickafoose, Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Tyranski called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Minutes from July 23, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Ms. Kluger made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. Blackmore. By unanimous vote the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Curriculum Committee

Dr. Richardson reported the committee is working diligently and moving forward. She added the work is intense but enjoyable and they are going page by page over the curriculum with a few changes and additions needed. One item for the next meeting is a calculation of the readability level. The table of contents needs to be generated, which is a last step, and they are developing quizzes. Dr. Richardson reported at their last meeting an interested parent to two Type 1 diabetic children was present, who questioned how this curriculum would be delivered (online or not) and whether bus drivers would be receiving this education. There was also a guest at the AWSAM Curriculum Sub-Committee meeting, Lisa Graves from the Stockley Center, who thanked the committee for approving the online training program for DDDS. She asked the sub-committee to consider medication administration via the enteral route. She provided additional information via email that was shared with committee members for discussion at the current AWSAM meeting. Ms. Tyranski thanked Dr. Richardson for her continued efforts with this sub-committee.

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Section 5 Regulatory Changes

Ms. Tyranski questioned the requirements for LLAM instructors under section 5.3 and revisions were made to this language. Instructors will be required to teach two LLAM courses per year to maintain certification. It will be the responsibility of the entity's administrator to keep a list of LLAM trained instructors and submit the instructor list to the Board of Nursing with their annual report by August 1st each year. There was also discussion about the names of eligible programs in section 5.1. Ms. Peterson is working on the statutory language and Ms. Waldron questioned if the assisted living agencies should be changed to "facilities." Ms. Peterson will be consulted on this matter. Members agreed the section on Error Reporting would need to be revisited after the error reports are finalized. Ms. Travis added that the terms "Residential and Day Treatment Programs" is the correct language for "residential child care facilities" as listed in the statute.

Error Report

Committee members reviewed the latest draft of the error report. Ms. Waldron questioned whether this would replace their monthly error report used in assisted living facilities. Dr. Zickafoose pointed out that tool was part of a pilot that ALs implemented, and they continued to use at the conclusion of the pilot. Ms. Waldron suggested several changes to the tools developed by Ms. Blackmore who stated these tools were to be use as risk assessment tools. Ms. Robinson questioned the significance of the numbers as reported on the tools. Ms. Blackmore replied we would need at least two years data to determine benchmarks and evaluate the risk scores. Ms. Tyranski added the reports we currently receive show no errors and this is not accurate data based on the evidence from RN error reporting reported nationally. It is highly unlikely that UAPs would have no errors compared to RNs. Ms. Tyranski also suggested more transparency in the error report and that the report should be an early indicator for potential issues. Ms. Blackmore agreed to continue refining the draft monthly report and Ms. Waldron will assist with this.

Completion Letter

Ms. Blackmore commented that the letter as written makes the assumption that the same person who teaches the LLAM course is the person who also observes the practicum and competency demonstration. She stated this is not going to be the case in most eligible programs. Revisions were suggested to the completion letter and Dr. Zickafoose will revise and resubmit for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Policies and Procedures

Ms. Tyranski stated she found several typos and she would forward them to Ms. Carmody for changes. She also clarified these are sample policies and procedures which may or may not be used by the eligible programs depending on their individual needs. Ms. Kluger suggested the reordering of the policies and addition of a policy on safe disposal of medications and narcotics. She will forward language to Ms. Carmody for the new policy. Dr. Zickafoose requested all members of the committee to review the document and forward their changes to Ms. Carmody by October 1st rather than taking so much time at this meeting. This is also on the curriculum committee agenda for October 1st.

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Enteral Medication Administration Request brought forward from the Curriculum Committee

Ms. Tyranski shared a story of a client with a J-tube which had been in place a long time; the RN used the tube and there were complications which resulted in patient death. This story demonstrated that even J-tubes can be problematic. Dr. Zickfoose discussed this request with Ms. Peterson prior to this meeting and Ms. Peterson asked if the MAC standardized training included enteral medication administration. Dr. Zickafoose reported the NCSBN model curriculum for MACs does not allow following acts: conversion or calculation of medication dosage; assessment of client need for or response to medication; nursing judgment regarding the administration of PRN medication; or medications to be given via parenteral routes and through nasogastric, gastrostomy or jejunostomy routes. Ms. Carmody made a motion to not allow enteral medication administration in the AWSAM/LLAM curriculum due to patient safety reasons, seconded by Dr. Richardson. By unanimous vote the motion carried.

Pharmacy Legislation

Ms. Kluger provided changes to the Board of Pharmacy Regulation 12 for Healthcare Facilities and she requested changes. Several suggestions were made to the title and the names of programs/facilities covered by this regulation. She stated the intent of these changes was to have pharmacies assist facilities receiving medications and managing their storage. This draft will next go to the Board of Pharmacy for their review.

Ms. Kluger informed the committee there would be a DEA medication safe disposal on October 26th and the multi-pack language will have a hearing in October. She is hopeful this will pass and then be effective in December.

OTHER BUSINESS before the committee (for discussion only):

Ms. Carmody reported she was in Washington DC last week and there was a lot of discussion about the issues in California related to medication administration. She requested the committee's opinion about sharing the LLAM curriculum with the ANA because the ANA wants to move quickly in the same direction we are going. Committee members agreed to not share the LLAM curriculum at this time until it is complete and approved in Delaware.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

NEXT MEETING- October 29, 2013 at 3:30PM Conference Room A, Cannon Building.

ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Famela C. Zukafoose

Pamela C. Zickafoose, EdD, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CNE

Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing